

CHAPTER ELEVEN

FRONT DRIVE MECHANISM (FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE)

This chapter describes repair and replacement procedures for the front drive mechanism used on four-wheel drive FE and FM models. This includes the front drive axles, front driveshaft and front differential gearcase.

Refer to **Table 1** for front drive specifications. **Table 2** lists torque specifications for the front drive mechanism assembly. **Tables 1-2** are located at the end of this chapter.

FRONT DRIVE AXLES

Removal/Installation

1. Detach the lower end of the shock absorber for the side being serviced (Chapter Ten). Raise the shock absorber out of the way.

NOTE

It is not necessary to remove the brake panel when performing Step 2.

2. Separate the lower ball joint from the steering knuckle (Chapter Ten) for the side being serviced.

3. Raise the steering knuckle assembly and remove the outer axle end from the steering knuckle (**Figure 1**). Support the steering knuckle assembly so it is out of the way.

CAUTION

When removing the front axle, be careful not to damage the rubber boots.

CAUTION

To avoid damage to the front differential oil seal and splines, pull the inboard joint straight out of the front differential.

4. Hold the inboard joint and pull the driveshaft (**Figure 2**) out of the differential. It may be necessary to use a screwdriver to pry the axle loose.

5. Perform the inspection procedures described in this section.

6. Install the front axle by reversing the preceding removal steps while noting the following:

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